

## Minutes

### EPAG Retreat 9/2/2009

Kendrick Brown, Pete Ferderer, Terri Fishel, Terry Krier, Carleton Macy, David Martyn (Chair), Ann Minnick, Kathy Murray, Jayne Niemi, Patrick Schmidt, Tom Varberg, Eric Wiertelak

- I. We were welcomed to the new academic year by our fearless leader, David Martyn. We each introduced ourselves and stated the length of service on the committee. David reminded us that there is divisional representation not to represent a constituency, but to ensure diversity of representation.
- II. Faculty Committee Service:
  - A. IDIM Committee: Eric Wiertelak
  - B. Academic Standing Committee: Eric Wiertelak
  - C. Study Away Review Committee: Patrick Schmidt
  - D. Department Chairs Committee: Terry Krier
  - E. General Education Requirements Committee: Pete Ferderer will chair; this group may also be convened by Jayne. Tasks include the assessment of the general education requirement, considering measures to ensure sufficient supply, as well as approving requests for general education designations. We suggested some names for the non-EPAG faculty who will serve two year terms: Raymond Robertson, Ray Rogers, Beth Cleary, Mahnaz Kousha, Kelly MacGregor, Terry Krier and Brook Lea. Kathy will invite folks from this group of names and get Faculty Personnel Committee (FPC) approval for the final roster.
- III. EPAG Representation
  - A. Academic Liaison Committee – David Martyn
  - B. Grants Committee – David Martyn
  - C. IGC Advisory – Pete Ferderer
  - D. Board of Trustees Academic Affairs – David Martyn (scheduled for 10/2/09, 9 a.m.)
  - E. Board of Trustees Admissions – Carleton Macy
  - F. Board of Trustees Advancement – Tom Varberg
  - G. Board of Trustees Campus Life – Eric Wiertelak
  - H. Honorary Degree Committee – Tom Varberg
- IV. Special Assignments
  - A. Library Advisory Board – Terry Krier
  - B. CST Advisory Board – Patrick Schmidt (Kathy will chat with Adrienne about EPAG rep)

\*\*\*Carleton volunteered to substitute as needed, if his schedule allows.

- V. Organizational Issues:

- A. We agreed that there should be a Moodle site for EPAG. David volunteered to set it up, and will get us all subscribed.
- B. We reviewed where many documents can currently be found. The faculty handbook and bylaws are posted on the Provost's website. Faculty minutes are on the Provost's site but some are missing, and are password protected. EPAG minutes are posted to the committee website.

## VI. Proposed Agenda Items 2009-10

### A. Received business

- 1. We will be considering the departmental reviews for Biology, Math & CS, and Music. This will include the department self-study, the review, and the department's response to the review. These documents will be posted to Moodle.
- 2. Math & CS has proposed a name change and will have course revisions as well.
- 3. Terry fulfilled her promise to investigate the concept of "consensus", and distributed a document for us to read.
- 4. We know that concentrations will need to be reviewed, and it a schedule for those reviews has been established. That review process and schedule will be tracked by the Provost's Office.

### B. Prescribed Business

- 1. We want to meet with the Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, as per the by-laws. First we should prepare by brainstorming about just what kind of questions we want to ask.

### C. Self-generated Business

- 1. Unfinished (things we talked about last year)
  - (i) CDP – this is our top priority.
  - (ii) Department Discontinuance
  - (iii) Assessment – at many levels.
  - (iv) Rules for majors and minors (overlap)
  - (v) Gen-Ed requirements: faculty buy-in and supply issues
  - (vi) Grade inflation
  - (vii) Spring project presentation day – is there enough interest and how late can we decide?
- 2. New
  - (i) Allocations and up-front info on anticipated expenses
  - (ii) Language curriculum development procedures (which could connect up with the CDP)
  - (iii) The possible development of a faculty senate system
  - (iv) Distribution requirements: is the humanities/fine-arts requirement optimal/sufficient?
  - (v) Steering committees for interdisciplinary departments – they are not mandated; some find them useful, but for others they may not be necessary
  - (vi) Students working full-time jobs and the impact on their performance
  - (vii) AP and other credits: advantages & disadvantages. Are more students graduating in only seven semesters? Jayne will get the numbers from the last few years.
  - (viii) Pressures for athletes/study abroad issues – Kathy shared some numbers that came from Paul Nelson. We would like to meet with Kim Chandler to talk about athletics and academics.

- (ix) Changes in credits from five to four – there is pressure on many fronts – tuition, course load, work load (classroom hours and out of class work)
- (x) Performance-enhancing drugs – not a new issue to the world of academe.

D. Other conversations

1. We talked about the appointment process for directors of interdisciplinary programs (described in Section 8 of the handbook). Some of the directors have no experience with “chair” activities.
2. David had asked for data from the Provost and Institutional Research to inform the development of the CDP, and it’s been a more difficult project than originally imagined. First steps are being taken. The CDP is at the top of our list, and we should discuss what it will look like and how we will talk about it. There is much work for us to do!

Adjourned 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jayne Niemi, Registrar